

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4988  
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2002  
PURCHASE OF FOODGRAINS DIRECTLY FROM CULTIVATORS  
KUMUDINI PATNAIK

**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is any proposal of the Food Corporation of India to purchase paddy and other crops directly from the cultivators in Orissa like Haryana and Punjab;
- (b) if so, the date from which such purchase will be made by FCI;
- (c) whether increase of Rs. 20.00 per quintal in paddy prices decided by the Government for drought areas will also be applicable to Orissa; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken to give wide publicity to the above decision?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION ( SH. KRISHNAM RAJU )

- (a)&(b): Paddy will be procured by the FCI in Orissa under price support scheme. The FCI has opened 20 paddy purchase centers in 6 Revenue Districts of Orissa from 1.11.2002 for procurement of paddy from farmers.
- (c): Yes, Sir. The special drought relief price of Rs.20/- per quintal for paddy over and above the MSP is payable to the farmers in the State.
- (d): Wide publicity has been given in the local newspapers and leaflets in local Oriya language distributed in different areas where FCI has opened direct paddy purchase centers.